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for making it into two gowns	0	6	11
For two pair of gloves, and a stick or staff	0	6	2
For two horses	1	11	0½
For shoeing these horses	0	0	4
For two pair of boots	0	2	8
Paid a lad for going with the mayor to Lynn, to take care of the horses*	0	0	3
To a boy for carrying a letter to Lynn	0	0	4
Expenses for the horses of the two for four days before they departed	0	1	0

* The distance between Thetford and Lynn is about thirty-three miles. M.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ACCOUNT OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF ST. PATRICK, AT MAYNOOTH, NEAR DUBLIN.

From Lond. M. Mag.

THE idea of a seminary for the education of Roman Catholics in Ireland was first started under the short but popular administration of Lord Fitzwilliam, in 1795. The act, however, for endowing such an institution did not pass, till Earl Camden had succeeded to the vice-royalty. Before that period the Catholic colleges on the Continent were frequented by the Irish, both clergy and laity, for the purposes of education; and an Irish Catholic never considered himself more at *home* than when *abroad*. In every country in Europe was he caressed and encouraged. To every country but his own, were his talents acceptable. In the career of science or of military honours, he met with no obstacle, but at home. There was he an alien indeed: there was he treated as an enemy to God, and to his king. This system, persevered in for hundreds of years in vain, ought at least to convince the world that those who remained Catholics were sincerely so; and upright sincere men are never to be despised because they are mistaken. To think that they would be better christians, or better subjects, by being deprived of a regular education was too absurd. To assert, that in this uncivilized state they would be less bigotted to their own principles, and more open to conviction or conversion to Protestantism, would be doing little honour to the Protestant religion, and less credit to the penetration of Protestants. Experience has completely belied that assertion, if ever it had been made. So that there remained nothing now to be done but to give both clergy and laity as good an education as possible.

A people so zealous, and at the same time so numerous, required a numerous clergy. We have no documents before us for ascertaining the number of the regulars educated on the Continent. We learn, however, that there are still friars of various religious orders in Ireland, such as Franciscans, Dominicans, Carmelites, Augustins, &c. &c. who all had their convents abroad, or free access to the convents of other nations. The two first had very numerous houses in Louvain: Prague had an Irish convent of one hundred Friars. Lisbon and Rome, Lorraine and Flanders had others: in short, in almost every Catholic seat of learning there were Irish Friars! It would appear their number far exceeded that of the secular clergy. They are now dying off, and if there be no extraordinary supply of well instructed successors, their loss will be severely felt by the Catholic congregations that are under their charge.

Of the secular clergy,* or clergy properly so called, brought up on the Continent, the following is the statement of Dr. Dunn laid before the House of Commons.

	Scholars.
In Paris, Coll. des Lombards	100
Ditto, Community rue Cheval Vert	80
Nantz	80
Bourdeaux	40
Douay	30
Toulouse	10
Lisle	8
Total in France	348

* The *secular* clergy are so called from *seculum*, the world: because from their duties they are obliged to intermix with the world. The bishop is the only superior of all the secular clergy in his diocese. They are not bound by the vow of poverty, nor do they live in communities. The *regular* clergy, so called from *regula*, a rule, are bound by their vows to poverty, chastity, and obedience. Where the laws of the country permit it, they live in communities, and have superiors of their own, generally chosen by themselves, and often exempt from the jurisdiction of the bishop, except in pastoral functions. They are also called *religious orders*, and of them there is a great variety.

In Louvain	40
Antwerp	30
Salamanca	32
Rome	16
Lisbon	12
	130
	348
Total	478

Professors . . 27

Of the whole number, about fifty-two supported themselves, or were supported by their friends. The others were either supported by foundations and bursarships, or lived during their residence at the college by the exercise of sacerdotal functions. For necessity had introduced and sanctioned a practice peculiar to Ireland. This was to ordain the young priests previous to their studies, and when they officiated for the first time, a collection or offering was made by the congregation to equip them, and bear their expenses to the Continent, where serving the altar, they continued to live by the altar till they finished their regular course. It may be supposed that this method was attended with much inconveniences; the studies were in general hurried over with too much haste; but the wants of the Catholic congregations were often too urgent to admit of more leisure.

By such resources was the priesthood recruited before the French Revolution: that event deprived the Irish Catholics of almost every means of religious education. The annual supply of about one hundred secular priests, and at least an equal number of friars, had failed for several years and of course the number of vacancies had increased to an alarming degree, when the Catholics of Ireland ventured at last to petition government for leave to found a college from their own contributions. No farther did their petition go: no more did they stand in need of pecuniary aid, however, inconsiderable from each, one shilling, nay sixpence a head, would from such a population have amounted to more than was required. But without permission they could not dispose of their own money in their own way. By the laws still existing, every foundation, every legacy bequeathed to the education of Catholics is superstitious, null, and of no effect.*

Here the administration seems to have been embarrassed. To refuse the prayer of the petition would have been illiberal in the extreme, and would have forced the petitioners to keep up the connection with the Continent, under all its disadvantages: to grant it, would be rendering the Catholics of the country the independent patrons of their own schools and system of education. Government, therefore, adopted a medium: the Catholics obtained leave for one college, to possess in land one thousand pounds a year, and no more:† but then eight thousand pounds were granted by parliament, with the expectation of the same grant being renewed annually; though without any certainty. This precarious and insufficient boon was hailed by the unsuspecting Catholics, as the most auspicious omen of future favours: while by the cabinet it was probably intended as the means of controling both pastors and people.

The sum of eight thousand pounds was given for the education of Catholics, without distinction of laity or clergy; but before education could commence, buildings were requisite to be found. For this purpose *no money* was yet appropriated: years therefore might elapse before, from the saving of the fund, any houses could be erected. Five years had already passed away since the connection with the Continent had been interrupted; five more must pass over before the new seminary could be fitted up to receive its compliment of pupils and professors.

Never was there a better opportunity of forming a selection from the literati throughout the Catholic coun-

* This is stated as a preamble to the Act. "Whereas by the laws now in force in this kingdom, it is not lawful to endow any College or Seminary for the education exclusively of persons professing the Roman Catholic religion, and it is now become expedient that a Seminary be established for that purpose, therefore be it enacted, &c." 36 George III. cap. 21.

† In 1794, the Musicians of Dublin got an Act passed in their favour without difficulty. They were empowered to possess an unlimited fund: to chuse and dismiss a committee, &c. Happy fidlers!

tries of Europe; most of whom, especially such as belonged to the clerical orders, had been set adrift by the consequences of the French Revolution; and would eagerly have embraced any decent offer of a permanent establishment. But alas, for want of means, of a building, and of a perpetual grant, only two foreigners were adopted as members of the college; and three natives of merit received their appointment the first year, 1795. The latter were the professors, Aherne from Paris; Clinch and Eustace, both educated in Ireland. The college has already lost Dr. Aherne, by death, in a very few years; and the other two by resignation. Delort, an emigrant of repute as a natural philosopher, has also vacated his place by resignation on his return to France. So that Abbé Darré, a Gascon, is the only one remaining of the original scientific teachers. The other appointments of the first year, such as that of President Hussey, D.D. Vice-president Power, A.M. Secretary Dunn, D.D. &c. served more to the formation than to the celebrity of the institution.

Such an opportunity of uniting all the literary talents of the Continent, can never recur. It is fruitless now to lament the parsimony and the shuffling which prevented Ireland from profiting by it.

The next year, 1796, the college made a great acquisition in Dr. Claney, an Irish professor from Prague; and the only professor of the Holy Scriptures the establishment ever had.

Before the end of 1795, the studies commenced; for we reckon thirty-seven students who entered immediately, of whom, thirty-five were twenty-five years old and upwards, on their admission; two were younger and soon left the college, while the others prosecuted their studies and were ordained in due time. In the second year only nineteen more were admitted; making in all forty-six students; to these thirteen others were added in 1797.

In the year 1798, the number of admitted were nineteen. None hitherto had paid any money on admission; we presume the buildings had not been fitted up for their reception, so that students and perhaps some professors must have lodged with the villagers. We reckon eighty-one admissions in 1799, and now for the first time, we find admission-money amounting to nine hundred pounds. And need there was, for this year government gave nothing.*

This seems to be the first money received by the college, exclusive of the parliamentary grant; for, although the Catholics had petitioned for permission to endow this seminary, and had actually obtained leave to receive subscriptions, and even to purchase land to the amount of one thousand pounds; it appears, that for the first years, it received neither legacy nor donation, and, for five years, not one hundred pounds were bequeathed for so necessary a purpose. If we consider the liberality of the Irish character, and the multitude of adherents to Catholicism, we can account for this no other way, than by the decay of religious zeal, or an implicit reliance that parliament would provide sufficient funds.

In 1798, the college lost its first president,† Dr. Hussey, who was promoted to the see of Waterford. Dr. Flood, a man of superior abilities, formerly professor of divinity in Paris, succeeded. Two other appointments took place the same year, viz. that of Abbé De la Hogue, who had been twenty years professor in the Sorbonne, and had the reputation of being one of the first divines in his church. He accepted of the chair of moral divinity and theology, which, on the death of D. Aherne, he exchanged for that of dog-

* In the second year, 1796, the grant was only seven thousand pounds, "to enable the trustees to build a seminary capable of containing two hundred persons. In 1797, the sum of ten thousand pounds was given, and in 1798, that of ten thousand three hundred and two pounds, five shillings, and ten pence, to complete the building of the Catholic seminary at Maynooth. It is expressly required that an estimate and plan be laid before parliament, and thence we may suppose the odd pounds, shillings, and pence, to arise. The sum total expended in building and enclosing, to 1808, is stated at twenty-one thousand six hundred and forty-three pounds, one shilling, and nine pence half-penny; yet Sir John Carr asserts, that government advanced forty thousand pounds for building! What a stranger to Ireland!—In 1799, we find no grant whatever.

† Before the bill passed the House of Commons, there was a petition, probably from Dr. Hussey and Co. against the appointment for trustees, to their mode of in-

matical theology; the place he now holds. The other appointment was that of Dr. Ferris, to be dean or *magister officiorum*. This gentleman, by birth an Irishman, had filled much higher situations abroad. He had been superior general of the congregation of the Mission in Paris, one of the most esteemed orders in the church.* On the revolution in France, he had held the place of assistant-general of the same institution in Rome.† He now fills the chair of moral theology. The same year a professor of English was added to the establishment; who is the only teacher not residing in the house.

The year 1799 is remarkable for the new office of agent, whose labour, if we may judge by the salary (three hundred pounds) far exceeds that of all others concerned about this institution. We are not told by whom he is appointed, nor what are his important functions.

We should not have been surprised to have seen him, on a late occasion, at the bar of the House of Commons, pleading the cause of his college; did we not remember Dr. Milner's remark on Ireland, "that of all countries that is the country of jobs."‡

At length, in 1800, the house began to assume a more respectable appearance. One hundred and two new students were then admitted, and their contributions on admission are stated at one thousand three hundred and eighteen pounds one shilling; to this, seventy-two pounds, ten shillings, were added in donations; hence the office of a treasurer became necessary; that of librarian was annexed to it, and both were superadded to the post of secretary of the board of trustees. This plurality of offices, however, does not seem to be accompanied with a plurality of salaries, at least there is none annexed to that of treasurer or librarian.

Another addition was attempted in 1800, viz. that of a lay-house. A priest is appointed prefect over this department of the college, or the embryo of the lay-college. The first prefect vacated in a few years, nor do we find any one appointed from the college in his place. The only master in the lay-house, besides the prefect, was a professor of Greek and Latin, but he is also only mentioned once; and when he vacated in two years, his place was not filled again. About this time, objections had been made to the education of lay scholars; as if all the Catholics, except its priesthood, were doomed to eternal ignorance! The laity, however, spurned the idea, and by subscription, erected a lay-college which had its own president, &c. without having any farther dependence on the clerical house.

While on the subject of this lay-college, we cannot but avert to the reasons for such an establishment, as stated by Dr. Milner.† "To speak the plain truth, says he, we wish our youth in general to be educated apart, precisely for the opposite reason to that which makes you wish them to be educated at the universities. You desire them to be sent there, that, by associating with other youths, whom you call more liberal, we, more lax, they may lose their religion. We wish to keep them at a distance from such society, for fear of the same consequence. We are full as anxious about the morals as the faith of the rising generation. Now we have been taught by the writers of the day, who have the best means of gaining accurate information concerning

terference in the education: this is stated to belong to the caput and professors. The petition was fruitless; the trustees remain empowered by the act to legislate under the control of government. This board is formed of the four first judges, viz. the Lord Chancellor, &c. four Catholic archbishops, several bishops, lords, and gentlemen.

* The Congregation of the Mission was one of those new religious families founded by St. Vincent. They were also known by the name of Lazarists. From their order were taken the presidents of seminaries for many of the dioceses in France. The clergy were in the habit of making what they termed their spiritual retreat, in these houses, under the direction of the fathers of St. Lazare. They not only sent missionaries to infidel nations, but also at home, they went about preaching; they had likewise the care of schools and hospitals.

† Plus potuit fama virtutis apud alienos, quam sanguinis proximitas apud suos.

‡ We are given to understand that the agent is a person nominated by government to act for the college, which he seems to do most passively.

*Inquiry into Vulgar Opinions, &c. concerning Ireland. Lett. iv. p. 25.

the state of morality in the universities, to form a very unfavourable opinion of it."

If Catholics be impressed with such ideas, need we wonder at the preference they give to Catholic houses of education. And would it be consonant to the liberality of the times, to refuse them their choice? Coercive laws to that effect should always be deprecated, as of the most mischievous tendency. Dr. Milner may, perhaps, be not quite so correct when he says, "that it is required of students in the Protestant universities to frequent the established service." That such may be their statutes, we admit; but in Dublin, attendance is never expected from students professing themselves Catholics; and, on two days in the week, fish is always provided for those who do not eat meat; nay, Trinity College showed itself hostile to any illiberal measure, when, on a late occasion, solicited, encouraged, and even threatened by a very great personage. To this university we believe Catholics have free access as students, and may, perhaps have the honour of getting scraps of that one dinner per day, which Dr. Duigenan tells us with regret is all that an orthodox Protestant can procure. From the fellowships and all the dignities of emolument in this college, Catholics are for ever debarred;* *Procul O! procul este profani!* And in the late most gracious acts passed in their favour, they are admissible as Fellows, Provosts, &c. in all colleges in Ireland, with the exception of the college of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, the only one in the island; and also with the exception of any college exclusively appropriated for persons of their own persuasion! That is, we grant you every thing excepting—all things.

While such is the encouragement held out to Roman Catholics to frequent our universities; while such an example of liberality is given by the legislature; need we wonder that, as Dr. Milner says, "Catholic parents will judge for themselves in these matters, and that the school in question being supported at their expense, they are not obliged to give an account to any one of the motives of their choice"*

So much for the lay-college, which Dr. M. assures us has now no farther connection with the Ecclesiastical Seminary, but that its members frequent the same church, and attend the same philosophical lectures. But we are not informed whether these lectures are given gratis to the young lay-gentlemen.

In the year 1801, the entrance money amounted to one thousand one hundred and thirty-six pounds, yet by the tables it appears that not more than thirty-two students were admitted. If there be no typographical error in dates or money, we should suppose the terms of admission to have been raised this year. In 1802, twenty-six is the number admitted, and their entrance-money amounts to two hundred and eighteen pounds: the three years following, the number of students gradually increased till 1806, when we find sixty-seven were admitted on the foundation, and paid six hundred and twenty eight pounds entrance.

The total amount of entrance money for the last nine years is stated at	£5,635	16	1½
Legacies† and Donations	3,012	13	0
	£8,648	9	1½

* The junior lecturers of Maynooth, would tremble at the three days examination of a junior fellow for Trinity College. The latter must be thoroughly versed in the whole circle of science, astronomy, mathematics, ethics, physics, logic, chronology, history, Hebrew, Greek, Latin, &c. &c. &c.

* In the original act, there is an evident intention of educating both clergy and laity; why then the lay-house should be laid aside or separated, we know not.

† The principal legacy ever bequeathed to this house, was that of the ex-catholic bishop of Cork, ex-protestant peer, Lord Dunboyne, who having reached an advanced period of life without ever coming to years of discretion, succeeded to an estate and peerage, and wishing to leave a representative of the illustrious house of Butler, *de sa propre façon*, claimed in vain of the Pope the princely privilege, since granted to Talleyrand. Finding Rome inexorable, Dr. Butler took upon himself his own dispensation: still hoping to rest in the lap of mother-church, as well as on the bosom of his fair lady. The terrors of excommunication at last frightened him out of his wits, I mean the little that remained of them; for dreading to be

From the year 1801, the Seminary has seen some of its own plants rising to goodly trees: there are no less than seven among the superiors or lecturers, who owe their education to the establishment. And it is no doubt with a view to encourage them and their successors, that the trustees have tied up their own hands from employing in the principal departments any but such as are lecturers on the foundation.

Among the number is a professor of Irish, established in 1804.

The college sustained a great loss by the death of Dr. Flood, its second president, in 1803, and is now under the direction of Dr. Byrne, formerly superior of the Irish college in Nantz;—Dr. Dunn,* his immediate predecessor, having resumed his first situation as secretary to the trustees, librarian and treasurer. The only late acquisition from the Continent is that of Abbé Anglade, a Parisian professor of divinity, who has accepted of the chair of logic, never before filled.

On reviewing the whole establishment as it now stands, we cannot but consider it as economical and well-organized.

The president, Dr. Byrne, enjoys the moderate allowance of one hundred pounds a year, with nearly so much more to enable him to meet casual expenses, such as travelling charges to Dublin, and postage, besides entertainment to the trustees and other strangers who may visit the house. He is the only one in the house furnished with tea, sugar, and other groceries, at the expense of the college. He has also a servant, whose wages are paid by the house. The professors have bed and board, fire and candle, besides their respective salaries.

The vice-president, who is also professor of French; and the two first professors of divinity, have each one hundred and five pounds a year. The dean, procurator, two professors of philosophy, and one of belles-lettres, have eighty-five pounds; the lecturers seventy-five pounds.

Heaven forbid that we should presume to make comparisons between the orthodox Trinity College, destined to train clergy for one seventh of the island, and another fitted out for six-sevenths at least! But yet, as a matter of curiosity, we copied from Sir John Carr, that the provost of Trinity college has one thousand five hundred pounds a year;—senior fellows eight hundred pounds a year; juniors one hundred pounds, which, with well-paid tuitions, makes them opulent. Even the professor of chymistry and mineralogy has three hundred pounds, besides fees. Let it not be said that these have families to maintain, for by their institution they are celibatarians, as well as their brethren of Maynooth.

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driven from the church, he ran out, of his own accord, read his recantation of errors which he believed to be truths, and continued to live a Catholic, although legally a protestant. Disappointed in his hope of transmitting a coronet to his posterity, the Reverend Peer bethought himself, though late, of recovering a crown of heavenly glory. To redeem his iniquities with almsdeeds, and to make due reparation to the church for the scandal he had given, he consented, after providing amply for the partner of his bed, to leave the greater part of his property to the college of Maynooth. This was more effectual than the most public penance could be! To this, what would be a separation *a mensa et thoro?* It carried conviction along with it. His relatives, however, though Catholics, did not conceive it so needful that his transgressions should be redeemed at their expense. They contested the will, and the trustees of the college have consented, when empowered by parliament, to compromise the matter, and to accept of the one half. Thus the cause commenced at the Trim assizes has been finished by the parties. There is no clue left to trace the other benefactions to their source; we could have wished the accounts of the college had enabled us to do honour to the memory of its principal benefactors.

* Though strangers, we can gather enough from the appointments of this reverend gentleman, to consider him as one of the main supports of this establishment. His first appointment, as secretary, bears the same date with that of Dr. Hussey, the first president: by his local knowledge, he must have been extremely useful to the board. In five years we find him librarian and treasurer: hence, we cannot but suppose that the library was collected by him, and the greater part of the donations procured by his exertions. We see him president in 1803, and voluntarily resigning in 1807, after having planned the enlarged buildings, and having obtained the additional grant of five thousand pounds.

Those who do not reside in the house are differently paid; the professor of English has one hundred pounds; the treasurer and secretary, seventy-nine pounds; the physician, fifty-six pounds; and the agent, three hundred pounds. When we consider that no fees whatever are paid by the students, we cannot but consider the appointments very moderate where the confinement is for ten months of the year uninterruptedly.

The accommodation of the students has hitherto been indifferent; to wit, an empty room without fire or candle, furniture, or books; generally three and sometimes four to one room: each pays for his own cloaths, washing, &c. which besides his entrance money, may be rated at twenty pounds per annum. On this plan the original building accommodates two hundred students. The first addition was calculated to give better accommodation to at least fifty more, that is, to give each his separate room. The second additional wing remains unfinished, At present however there is more room than subjects: the return of 1808 being two hundred and five, instead of two hundred and fifty.

The great vacation lasts two months, but even then no student can absent himself without leave from his bishop.

GENERAL ORDER OF EACH DAY.

Morning.

5 o'clock, First bell
5½ ——— Common prayer
6 ——— Study in the public halls
7½ ——— Mass
8 ——— Breakfast
9 ——— Study in the public halls
10 ——— Class
11½ ——— Recreation
12 ——— Study in the public halls.

Afternoon.

1½ ——— Class
3 ——— Dinner
5 ——— Class of modern language
6 ——— Study in the public halls
8 ——— Supper
9 ——— Common prayer
9½ ——— All retire in silence to their chambers.

Every Wednesday, general walk or relaxation.

PRESENT ESTABLISHMENT, 1808.

Office.	*Names.*	£.	s.	d.	
President	R. Pat. Jas. Byrne, D.D.	*227	10	0	
Vice-President	R. Frs. Power, A.M. .	106	0	0	
Dean	R. Thos. Coen . . .	85	0	0	
Procurator and Bursar .	R. Mich. Montagu . .	85	0	0	
Prof. Dogmat. Divinity .	R. L. De la Hogue, D.D.	106	0	0	
Prof. Moral Divinity . .	R. Ed. Ferris, D. D. .	106	0	0	
Prof. Nat. Philosophy .	R. A. Darré	85	0	0	
Prof. of Logic	R. Fr. Anglade . . .	85	0	0	
Prof. of Belles Lettres .	R. Ch. Lovelocke . .	85	0	0	
Prof. of Greek and Latin	R. P. M'Nicolas . . .	75	0	0	
Lecturer of Dogm. Divin.	R. M. Crowly . . .	75	0	0	Master of Music, 10*l.*
——— of Moral Divin	R. D. Sinnott	75	0	0	
——— in Logic . . .	R. W. Conolly . . .	75	0	0	Sub-Librarian, 20*l.*
Prof. of Irish	R. P. O'Brien . . .	75	0	0	
Prof. English Elocution .	Mr. Mark Usher . . .	100	0	0	
Treasurer, Secretary . .	R. A. Dunn	79	12	6	The four last do not reside in the house.
Physician	Thos. Egan, M.D. . .	56	17	6	
Agent	Alexander Knox, esq. .	300	0	0	
		1862	0	0	
Two annexed Salaries, as in Margin		30	0	0	
		1892	0	0	

* President's real salary, 113*l.* 15*s.* remainder for casual expenses. No salary mentioned for the librarian or treasurer, the present secretary filling all these places, and receiving no other emolument. Commons, groceries, fire and candles are the usual advantages derived from the fund, which, however, the Professor of English does not enjoy, his salary being 100*l.* a-year.